

REMARKS

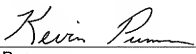
The Applicant hereby elects with traverse to prosecute the invention or combination III, claims 6-19.

In response to the request for election in the Office Action of January June 26, 2007, Applicant respectfully submits that the election is improper and should be withdrawn. Even though the sub-combinations of a catheter and sheath are distinctive from each other, they are both in the same art class 606 and are both used together in the same system described in the present application. Prosecuting claims directed to a system for treating a vessel occlusion that comprises the subcombinations would not complicate the action or unduly burden the Patent Office, as compared to requiring multiple applications which is more burdensome to the patent office. The Office which could easily dispose of both the system and catheter/sheath subcombination claims in this application, rather than having to process multiple applications on the same subject matter. Applicant therefore submits that it would not unduly burden the Examiner to examine claims 1-19 encompassing the system, catheter and sheath. In any event, Applicant provisionally elects the invention of combination III, claims 6-19.

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (314)-726-7500.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 
Kevin Pumm
Reg. No. 49,046

Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.
7700 Bonhomme, Suite 400
St. Louis, Missouri 63105
(314) 726-7500
[KMP/nr]